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We claim as our Invention ~~Claims~~

1. Method for aligning packet loss priority information (CLPx) for overload control of a communications device (ATM-KE) that switches data packets (DPx) to which data packets (DPx) and respectively allocated loss priority information (CLPx) is transferred and buffered in a memory area (PS) in relation to a specific connection,
characterized in that
- the packet loss priority information (CLPx) is read from the buffered data packets (DPx),
- the packet loss priority information (CLPx) of the buffered data packet (DPx) is modified depending on the connection type or application-specific data traffic type,
- and, after a data packet (DPx) has been switched in the communications device (ATM-KE), the original packet loss priority information (CLPx) is restored in the corresponding data packet (DPx).

2. Method according to claim 1,
characterized in that
the packet loss priority information (CLPx) read from the buffered data packet (DPx) is recorded in an additional, communications-device-specific data packet header (DKx),
the additional data packet header (DKx) is then attached to the buffered data packet (DPx) and the buffered data packet (DPx), including the attached, additional data packet header (DKx), is switched in the communications device (ATM-KE).

3. Method according to one of claims 1 or 2,
c~~haracterized in that~~

different loss priorities are allocated to the respective data packet (DPx) by the packet loss priority information (CLPx).

4. Method according to one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the respective data packets (DPx) of a group of data packets (DPx) are modified with packet loss priority information (CLPmx) depending on the connection type or application-specific data traffic type.

5. Method according to claim 2, characterized in that, after a data packet (DPx) has been switched in the communications device (ATM-KE), the additional communications-device-specific data packet header (DKx) attached to the data packet (DPx) is then removed.

6. Method according to one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that, in cell-switching communications devices (ATM-KE), the packet loss priority information (CLPx) is defined by cell loss priority information (CLPx).

7. Method according to claim 6, characterized in that cell loss priority information (CLPx) is formed by information comprising one bit.